



# What's New in the City

## City of Natchitoches

August 1, 2015

Volume XV, Issue 8

### Art Adventures Camp Starts August 3

The City of Natchitoches Recreation and Parks Department and the Northwestern State University Department of Creative and Performing Arts will host Art Adventures Camp August 3 - 7, 2015. Art Adventures Camp will explore visual, performing and culinary arts and celebrate the Art of a City Street.

Art Adventures Camp will be held August 3 - 7, 2015 at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Recreational Community Center from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. A reception will be held on August 8, 2015 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to showcase the work of the students. Volunteers are needed to assist with classes. Volunteers must be at least 15 years of age or older.

Registration for Art Adventures Camp is currently full; however, those interested in attending may be placed on a waitlist for the camp. Registration is \$40 per child or \$5 with proof of Medicaid Card.

Art Adventures Camp is funded by grants

from the Natchitoches Arts Council and Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.

For more information on Art Adventures Camp or volunteering, please call Dallas Russell at (318) 471-8661 or email at drussell@natchitochesla.gov.



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#### Did you know?

- The Recreation and Parks Department is now taking orders for Christmas Festival tarps. Tarps are \$60 per spot. For more information, call 357-3891.
- The 16th Annual Cane River Zydeco Festival & Poker Run will be held Labor Day weekend, September 4 & 5, on the downtown riverbank.
- Recreation and Parks Department Football Registration will be held August 8, 15 & 22 from 9a.m. - 12p.m. at the MLK Center. Cost is \$50 with your own equipment, \$100 without. All helmets must be black.
- Wings over Natchitoches Air Show will be held Sept. 12 at the Natchitoches Regional Airport.
- NSU's Office of Electronic and Continuing Education will offer a water aerobics class starting Aug. 4th and a Concealed Carry Class on Aug. 8th. For more information, call (800) 376-2422.

### Back to School Bash August 8

The City of Natchitoches Recreation and Parks Department will host a Back to School Bash on Saturday, August 8, 2015 from 10:00

a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at City Park on Amulet Street in Natchitoches. Students of all ages are invited to attend and show off their school pride in a parish-wide pep rally.

The Back to School Bash begins at 10:00 a.m. at City Park located at 300 Amulet Street. Events will include a pep rally featuring spirit groups and athletics teams from area junior high and high schools,

performances by Kimmy's Zumba and local dance troupes, and music provided by MC Lil Chris and My 93.9 FM. Additional activities include a backpack giveaway sponsored by Walmart and a school uniform drive sponsored by the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office. Concessions such as hot dogs, cotton candy, popcorn, pickles and water will also be available free of charge.

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## Cane River Creole NHP: The Ideal Field Trip Destination

The 2015-16 academic year is quickly approaching. Before any of you teachers, scout leaders, and home-schoolers arrange your upcoming field trips, we ask that you take a moment to consider Cane River Creole National Historical Park for your destination. Cane River Creole's Oakland and Magnolia Plantations are wonderful outdoor classrooms where students can learn about two hundred years of plantation life. Park staff members are available to provide guided tours of both sites that can help you achieve your educational goals. These programs are available free of charge. Yes, you read that correctly, our tours will cost you nothing.

If you would like to bring lunches, both sites have picnic tables and the Oakland Plantation has a covered entrance pavilion. Oakland Plantation also has a small gift shop with moderately priced educational souvenirs, books, and postcards.

For those of you that still can't visit the park, you can request one of our curriculum based traveling trunks. Traveling trunks are an excellent way for teachers to bring the

National Park experience to your classroom. Our two trunks deal specifically with the Creole Culture and the Civil War. Each trunk contains lesson plans, videos and numerous hands-on activities. Our trunks will allow your students to dress up like Civil War soldiers and experience the joys of ginning cotton by hand. Park staff members will hand deliver these trunks to most schools within the CenLa region.

If you're interested in scheduling a field trip or checking out our traveling trunks please contact the park at (318) 356-8441.

Even if you're not a teacher or student, you're still invited to visit Cane River Creole's Oakland and Magnolia Plantations. Both sites are open seven days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. except on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. To reach Oakland Plantation, take I-49 to Exit 127, Flora/Cypress. Head east on LA Highway 120 toward Cypress. Once you reach the LA Highway 1 intersection cross over LA Highway 1 onto LA Highway 494. The parking lot and entrance pavilion for Oakland are 4.5 miles east of Highway 1 on the left.

To reach the grounds of Magnolia Plantation, take I-49 to Exit 119, Derry. Head east on LA Highway 119. Cross over LA Highway 1 and proceed for two miles. The grounds of Magnolia Plantation are on the right. The main house at Magnolia is privately owned and not open to the public. For more information, call (318) 356-8441 or visit our website at <http://www.nps.gov/cari/>.



## Back to School Bash (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

The Recreation and Parks Department is also holding a School Supply Basket and Crayola Wreath raffle as a fundraiser for the event. Tickets are \$1 per chance to win either of the two items. The winner will be announced at the Back to School Bash.

The Back to School Bash is free and open to the public.

For more information on the Back to School Bash and raffle, please call the City's Recreation and Parks Department at (318) 357-3891.

## Natchitoches Named One of 50 Most Beautiful Small Towns



The City of Natchitoches, recently named Best Southern Small Town by readers of USA Today and 10Best.com, has a new title to be proud of. Natchitoches was recently named one of the 50 Most Beautiful Small Towns in America by *House Beautiful* and *Good Housekeeping* magazines. Natchitoches represented the state of Louisiana in the list of winners.

One town from each state was selected to round out the list of 50 Most Beautiful Small Towns. Also included in the list were Sedona, Arizona; Breckenridge, Colorado; Ste. Genevieve, Missouri; Cooperstown, New York; and Rockland, Maine.

For the complete list of 50 Most Beautiful Small Towns in America, visit [http://www.goodhousekeeping.com/life/travel/g2549/best-small-towns/?src=arb\\_fb\\_d&mag=ghk&dom=fb](http://www.goodhousekeeping.com/life/travel/g2549/best-small-towns/?src=arb_fb_d&mag=ghk&dom=fb).

# Keep Natchitoches Beautiful

## Awarded \$5,200 KLB Healthy Communities Grant



Keep Natchitoches Beautiful has been awarded a \$5,200 Healthy Communities Grant from Keep Louisiana Beautiful, the state's anti-litter and community improvement organization focused on education, enforcement, awareness and clean-ups.

The Healthy Communities Grant will focus efforts on educating the community on proper recycling techniques, promoting awareness of recycling services and facilities in the area, and increasing access to recycling at various

events and festivals throughout the City of Natchitoches. Programming will include recycling education and programs at area schools, participation in America Recycles Day, and elaborating on the "How Do You Recycle?" public service campaign begun in 2014.

In addition to these efforts on recycling, portions of the Healthy Communities Grant will benefit the community at large through city-wide and neighborhood cleanup efforts such as Leaders Against Litter and the Great American Cleanup. Local churches, community groups, service organizations, and area clubs will be encouraged to commit a Cleanup Team to maintain specific neighborhoods, areas, streets and/or parks.

"All efforts of Keep Natchitoches Beautiful are focused on education, awareness, community involvement and sustainability

through behavior changes," state Samantha Bonnette, City of Natchitoches Main Street and Public Relations Manager and Keep Natchitoches Beautiful Program Manager. "We believe that it is everyone's responsibility to keep Natchitoches beautiful and through the Healthy Communities Grant we are able to provide people the tools to do so."

For more information about Keep Natchitoches or to volunteer for a cleanup, please call the City of Natchitoches Main Street Office at (318) 352-2746.



## Contestants Sought for Natchitoches Queens Scholarship Program

Contestants are being sought for the 2015 Natchitoches Queens Scholarship Program to be held Sunday, September 13, 2015 at the Natchitoches Events Center.

The Miss Merry Christmas Pageant and Miss Natchitoches Teen Pageant will both be held on Sunday, September 13 at 5:00 p.m. at the Natchitoches Events Center.

The Miss Merry Christmas Pageant is open to young ladies who will be en-

rolled in the 12th grade at a Natchitoches Parish high school. Participants compete in scholastic achievement, interview, eveningwear and onstage question.

The Miss Natchitoches Teen Pageant is open to young ladies who will be enrolled in grades 9—11 at a Natchitoches Parish high school. Participants compete in scholastic achievement, interview, sportswear, eveningwear and onstage question.

There is a \$75 entry fee to enter either

the Miss Merry Christmas or Miss Natchitoches Teen Pageants. Applications can be picked up at the Natchitoches Main Street Office Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. There must be at least 10 girls entered for the pageants to take place.

All applications and entry fees are due to the Main Street Office no later than Friday, August 28, 2015. For more information, please contact Samantha Bonnette at 318-352-2746.



## City of Natchitoches

Oldest Permanent  
Settlement in the  
Louisiana Purchase

P.O. Box 37  
700 Second Street  
Natchitoches, La. 71458

Phone: 318-352-2772

Fax: 318-357-3829

E-mail:  
cityhall@natchitochesla.gov

back to  
School



## NSU Online Accounting Program #2 in Nation

Northwestern State University's online bachelor's program in accounting has been ranked as the number two accounting program in the country, according to the website [onlineu.org](http://onlineu.org).

The site is the second one to rank Northwestern State's online accounting program as the number two program in the U.S. In May, the accounting program was recognized by non-profitcollegesonline.com as the second ranked program in the country.

The program moved up 12 spots in this year's rankings. NSU's accounting program was the least expensive ranked program with tuition of less than \$5,000 annually.

"We are pleased to receive further affirmation of the quality of our accounting program," said Coordinator of Accounting Dr. Nat Briscoe. "This ranking shows our students are

well prepared to enter the workforce after earning their degree. It also shows we provide an outstanding education at a low cost which reduces the financial burden on students."

Briscoe said the program is designed for those students who want a strong education in accounting specific areas as well as a general education in all areas of business. The program requires a minimum of 120 credits for completion. The Bachelor of Science in Accounting program prepares diverse career paths by offering courses in financial and managerial accounting, cost accounting, tax, audit, accounting information systems and governmental accounting.

The accounting program is part of NSU's School of Business. You can learn more about NSU's accounting degree program at [business.nsula.edu/accounting](http://business.nsula.edu/accounting).



## Upcoming Holidays & Important Dates

Aug. 3—Natchitoches Historic District Commission Meeting, 5:00 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center

Aug. 4—Planning & Zoning Meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center

Aug. 4 - "Delaney" An ESPN 30 for 30 Short Film screening, 6:30 p.m. at Magale Recital Hall on NSU's Campus. Tickets \$10.

Aug. 7—Lakeview High School Football Lift-a-thon, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. on the Downtown Riverbank

Aug. 8—Back to School Bash,



10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at City Park on Amulet Street

Aug. 8 - Colonial Natchitoches Genealogy Program, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Fort St. Jean Baptiste SHS

Aug. 8 & 9 - Demon Digfest 2015 at Point Place Marina. Play begins each day at 8:00 a.m. \$100 per

team.

Aug. 10—First Day of School

Aug. 10—City Council Meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center

Aug. 17—Airport Commission Meeting, 5:00 p.m. at Natchitoches Regional Airport

Aug. 20—Natchitoches Historic District Development Commission Meeting, 10:00 a.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center

Aug. 24—City Council Meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center